

NOV 01 2006

JBH:cmw 10/31/06

Attorney Ref. No. 739-71454-01

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PLEASE DELIVER DIRECTLY TO: Customer Corrections**Fax No.:** 571-273-8300**Total No. Pages:** 5 including this cover sheet**Message:** Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application is a Request for Corrected Official Filing Receipt and attached Exhibit A. If you do not receive all pages or if you have problems receiving transmittal, please call Christine M. Wolfe at (503) 595-5300.

In re application of: Paul Raymond Smith

Application No.: 10/551,270

Filed: May 30, 2006

For: A SPHERICAL BEARING ARRANGEMENT AND
METHODS

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: 3682

Date: November 1, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any documents referred to as being transmitted herewith are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office via 571-273-8300 on November 1, 2006.


Attorney for Applicant**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED OFFICIAL FILING RECEIPT**

Applicants have received the official Filing Receipt for the application referenced above, a copy of which (with requested correction shown) is attached as Exhibit A.

The Filing Receipt contains the following errors in the name of the title:

ERROR

Spherical Bearing Arrangement

CORRECT INFORMATIONA Spherical Bearing Arrangement And
Methods

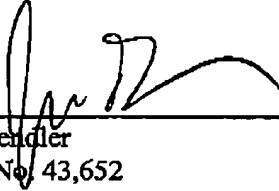
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Attached as Exhibit B is the Preliminary Amendment submitted on September 28, 2005, amending the title to read: "A Spherical Bearing Arrangement and Methods."

Applicants request that the identified error be corrected and that a new official Filing Receipt be issued.

No fee should be required for this filing. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may be required in connection with this filing, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550.

Please call the undersigned if any further information is required.



Jeffrey B. Haendler
Registration No. 43,652

November 1, 2006
Date

cc: Docketing

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PAGE 2/12 * RCVD AT 11/1/2006 6:08:16 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-1/8 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:5035955301 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06

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Page 1 of 3

NOV 01 2006

Forrester Ketley/JBH



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|------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 10/551,270 | 05/30/2006 | 3682 | 1030 | 739-71454-01 | 2 | 20 | 2 |

CONFIRMATION NO. 6421

24197
KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP
121 SW SALMON STREET
SUITE 1600
PORTLAND, OR 97204

FILING RECEIPT



OC00000020671580

PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED

Date Mailed: 10/18/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Paul Raymond Smith, Lincoln, UNITED KINGDOM;
Jerome Gourdl, Lincoln, UNITED KINGDOM;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 24197.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/GB04/01295 03/25/2004

Foreign Applications

UNITED KINGDOM 0307425.9 03/31/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 10/17/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/551,270**

Projected Publication Date: 01/25/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Exhibit A

Title

A Spherical bearing arrangement and methods**Preliminary Class**

384

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process simplifies the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but does not result in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

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Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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JBH:lam 09/28/05 432505 P17501US
PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 739-71454-01
Express Mail Label No. EV629077308US
Date of Deposit: September 28, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Smith and Gourdol

Application No. Not yet assigned.

Filed: Herewith

Confirmation No. Not yet assigned.

For: A SPHERICAL BEARING
ARRANGEMENT

Examiner: Not yet assigned.

Art Unit: Not yet assigned.

Attorney Reference No. 739-71454-01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EV629077308US in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP PCT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Attorney or Agent
for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed September 28, 2005

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 6.

Exhibit B

JBH:lam 09/28/05 432505 P17501US
PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 739-71454-01
Express Mail Label No. EV629077308US
Date of Deposit: September 28, 2005

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the title of the application with the following:

—A SPHERICAL BEARING ARRANGEMENT AND METHODS—

On page 1 immediately following the title, please insert the following paragraph:

—This is the U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/GB2004/001295, filed March 25, 2004, which in turn claims the benefit of Great Britain Patent Application No. GB 0307425.9, filed March 31, 2003.—

Please insert the Abstract, submitted herewith on a separate page, as page 7 at the end of the application.

JBH:am 09/28/05 432505 P17501US
PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 739-71454-01
Express Mail Label No. EV629077308US
Date of Deposit: September 28, 2005

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a spherical bearing comprising the steps of:

swaging an inner housing onto a ball to curve the inner housing around the ball and surround the equator of the ball;

providing an annular elastomeric portion around an outer surface of the inner housing, the annular elastomeric portion also curving around the ball and surrounding the equator of the ball;
and

swaging an outer housing onto the elastomeric portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the step act of providing the annular elastomeric portion around the outer surface of the inner housing comprises bonding an elastomeric portion to the outer surface of the inner housing.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the elastomeric portion is applied by an injection process.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A spherical bearing arrangement having a bearing housing and a ball located therein, the bearing housing having an outer housing, an inner housing and an annular elastomeric portion sandwiched between the outer and inner housings, wherein:

the outer housing has an outer surface to allow the outer housing to be securely held in an interference fit hole;

the housings and the annular elastomeric portion surround the equator of the ball; and

the inner housing and the annular elastomeric portion are curved around the ball.

6. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the inner housing.

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7. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the inner housing by an injection process.
8. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 7~~ Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.
9. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 8~~ Claim 5, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.
10. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 9, wherein the liner is a self-lubricating liner.
11. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 8~~ Claim 5, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.
12. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 11~~ Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is rubber.
13. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.
14. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.
15. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.
16. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

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17. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 8, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

18. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

19. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

20. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 8, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

21. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is rubber.

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JBH:lam 09/28/05 432505 P1750708
PATENT

Attorney Reference Number 739-71454-01
Express Mail Label No. EV629077308US
Date of Deposit: September 28, 2005

Remarks

By this amendment, the specification has been updated to reflect prior related applications, to insert the abstract on a separate page, and to amend certain claims of the international application. In particular, claims 8, 9, 11 and 12 are rewritten to depend from a single claim. Also, new claims 13-21 have been added.

Claim 4 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

If any issues remain to be discussed prior to examination, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By


Jeffrey B. Haendler
Registration No. 43,652

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A SPHERICAL BEARING ARRANGEMENT AND METHODS**ABSTRACT**

A spherical bearing arrangement (1) ~~having~~ has a bearing housing (3) and a ball (4) located therein, with the bearing housing (3) having an outer housing (5), an inner housing (6) and an annular elastomeric portion (7) sandwiched between the housings (5,6), ~~and a method~~ Methods of making the same comprising the steps of bearing arrangement comprise: swaging an inner housing (6) onto a ball (4); providing an annular elastomeric portion (7) around an outer surface of the inner housing (6); and swaging an outer housing onto the elastomeric portion (7).